

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. Claims 1, 2, and 26-42 are currently pending, of which claims 1, 28, and 35 are independent. By this amendment, claims 3-25 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 26-42 have been added, and claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 7-11 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Lorimer or Newman in view of Legeman; claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applied prior art as applied to claim 18, and further in view of either Yongeberg or Voss; claims 20-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applied prior art as applied to claim 18, and further in view of either Ramason or Loniello; claims 12 and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP '302 or Kang in view of either Ramason or Loniello; claim 24 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morton in view of either Zimmermann or Voss; and claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applied prior art as applied to claim 24 above, and further in view of either Loniello or JP '302. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Complete discussions of the Examiner's rejections are set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-8, 10-12, 15-18, and 20-25 have been cancelled, thus rendering these rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1 and 2 are allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is still allowable.

Claims 26-42

Claims 26-42 have been added for the Examiner's consideration.

Independent claim 26 recites a combination of elements in a drum type washing machine including "a cabinet," "a tub to hold water in the cabinet," "a drum rotatably installed in the tub," "a driving motor installed in the cabinet to rotate the drum," "a vapor generator installed in the cabinet to generate vapor," "a circulation pump installed in the cabinet to circulate wash water drained from the tub," "a first connection hose connected to the vapor generator for supplying the vapor to the drum," "a second connection hose connected to the circulation pump for supplying the circulated water to the drum," "a drain pipe connected to the tub and the circulation pump," and "a nozzle configured to inject the vapor or supply the circulated water to the drum from a upper side of the drum."

Independent claim 35 recites a combination of steps in a controlling method of a drum type washing machine having a cabinet, a tub to hold water in the cabinet, a drum rotatably installed in the tub, a driving motor installed in the cabinet to rotate the drum, a vapor generator installed in the cabinet to generate vapor, a circulation pump installed in the cabinet to circulate wash water drained from the tub, a first connection hose connected to the vapor generator for supplying the vapor to the drum, a second connection hose connected to the circulation pump for supplying the circulated water to the drum, and a drain pipe connected to the tub and the circulation pump, the method including "supplying water to the tub," "circulating the supplied water by the circulation pump through the second connection hose," and "supplying vapor to the drum through the first connection hose by operating the vapor generator upon a user's selection of using vapor."

Applicants respectfully submit that these combinations of features as set forth in independent claims 26 and 35 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record. In particular, none of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the combination of features including "a vapor generator installed in the cabinet to generate vapor," "a circulation pump installed in the cabinet to circulate wash water drained from the tub," "a first connection hose connected to the vapor generator for supplying the vapor to the drum," "a second connection

hose connected to the circulation pump for supplying the circulated water to the drum,” “a drain pipe connected to the tub and the circulation pump,” and “a nozzle configured to inject the vapor or supply the circulated water to the drum from a upper side of the drum” and the method for controlling a washing machine having those features.

Consideration and allowance of claims 26-42 are respectfully requested.

Additional Cited References

Since the remaining references cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but have merely been cited to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Chad D. Wells, Registration No. 50,875, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

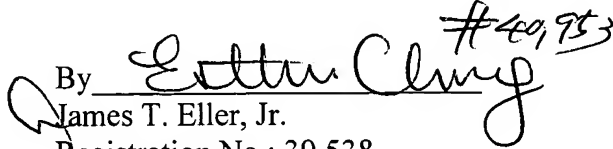
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 10, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By  #40,953
James T. Eller, Jr.
Registration No.: 39,538
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicants

CDW